

I strongly support the proposal to eliminate the CW requirement (Element 1) for operation below 30 MHz.

I am a VA hospital employee who recently earned a tech license so as to be able to assist with emergency communications in the event of a disaster.

While I understand that many longtime hams believe additional knowledge should be required for access to HF bands, the CW requirement creates a barrier for persons like myself (hearing-impaired) who would like to help with HF emergency communication nets.

If the FCC is not willing to eliminate the Element 1 requirement, I would propose that amateur operators be allowed to choose between demonstrating (1) 5 wpm CW ability or (2) knowledge of emergency communication procedures.